

Who are the Hatfields and the McCoys?

Use the below online resources to learn about the infamous feud between two southern U.S. families, the Hatfields and the McCoys. Once you've watched the videos and read the history, complete the below assignments in Part I and Part II by posting your responses on my wikispace (www.mrsmcnesby.wikispaces.com).

CBS News

Video: <http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7411184n>

Article: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-57450053/the-hatfields-mccoys-americas-greatest-feud

History Channel

Video: <http://www.history.com/shows/hatfields-and-mccoys/videos/hatfields-and-mccoys-saga?m=5189719bafo36&s=All&f=1&free=false>

Read about the *Hatfields & McCoys* mini-series: <http://www.history.com/shows/hatfields-and-mccoys>

PART I. In a television review for *The Washington Post*, critic Hank Stuever writes of the *Hatfields & McCoys* mini-series, "The point of the entire saga, it seems, is to make you lose track of what the feudin' was about, and how it managed to burn out of control. It will always be tempting to view [the Hatfields' and McCoys'] story through any modern analogy of one's choosing — such as *partisan political **stalemates or the ***red-blue socioeconomic divide.

*biased; one-sided

**deadlock; draw; tie

***Red states and blue states refer to those states of the United States whose residents predominantly vote for the Republican Party (red) or Democratic Party (blue) presidential candidates.

Let's do exactly that! What feuds do we see in our own society? How do we use these stories to form a modern analogy like as Stuever mentions?

HATFIELDS: Choose a current event and compare it to the feuds like those of the Hatfields & McCoys and/or the Znaeym and von Gradwitz families in "The Interlopers." (minimum 250 words).

MCCOYS: Respond to a Hatfield. Do you agree or disagree with the comparison? Why? Ask a question that would push the Hatfield to think further about this issue. (minimum 100 words)

PART II. In class, we responded to the question, "Do you think humanity is basically warlike or peaceful?"

HATFIELDS: What was your original response? Take a look at the Hatfields and McCoys as well as the characters in "The Interlopers." Do these two examples reflect your response? Why or why not? (minimum 250 words)

MCCOYS: Respond to a Hatfield. Do you agree or disagree? Why? Ask a question that would push the Hatfield to think further about this (minimum 100 words).

Fun Fact: Although the feud between the Hatfields and McCoys transpired in the southern U.S. near the Appalachian Mountains, the filming of the mini-series actually took place in Romania near the Carpathian Mountains ... which coincidentally was the setting for Saki's "The Interlopers."
